

REMARKS

Claims 14-33 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-13 have been cancelled, without prejudice to the filing of a continuing application.

New claims 14-33 have been added. No new matter is included in these new claims. Support for each is found at least in the specification as originally filed as shown below:

| New Claim Number | Support |
|------------------|--------------|
| 14 | Claims 1 & 7 |
| 15 | Claim 6 |
| 16 | Claim 5 |
| 17 | Claim 9 |
| 18 | Para [0044] |
| 19 | Para [0044] |
| 20 | Para [0012] |
| 21 | Para [0045] |
| 22 | Claim 10 |
| 23 | Para [0045] |
| 24 | Para [0046] |
| 25 | Para [0046] |
| 26 | Claim 11 |
| 27 | Claim 12 |
| 28 | Claim 13 |
| 29 | Para [0015] |
| 30 | Para [0015] |
| 31 | Para [0016] |
| 32 | Para [0050] |
| 33 | Para [0050] |

In the most recent Office Action, dated June 1, 2006, the Examiner has indicated that claims 6 and 7 contained allowable subject matter. New claim 14 contains the subject matter of claim 1 and claim 7. New claims 15-33 each depends, directly or indirectly, from new claim 14.

Art-Based Rejections

In the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-5, 8-13, 14, and/or 15 as being unpatentable (obvious) over the combination of:

(1) United States Patent No. 5,354,551 of Schmidt in view of United States Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0022964 of Leung *et al.*;

(2) Schmidt in view of United States Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0053962 of Zerbe *et al.*; and

(3) Schmidt in view of Zerbe, taken in view of United States Patent No. 5,425,953 of Sintov *et al.*

However, the Examiner has stated that she finds each of claims 6 and 7 to contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if written as an independent claim. As each of the new claims 14-33 contains or depends from a claim that contains the subject matter of claim 7, the Examiner's rejections are no longer applicable.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of each of the rejections is requested.

Provisional Double Patenting Rejections

The Examiner has issued two provisional double patenting rejections on the grounds of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting:

(i) Provisional rejection of claims 1-15 as being unpatentable over claims 1-28, 44; and 46 of United States Patent Application Serial No. 10/739,803 in view of Zerbe; and

(ii) Provisional rejection of claims 1-15 as being unpatentable over claims 1-41 and 44-45 of United States Patent Application Serial No. 10/860,377 in view of Zerbe.

Applicants shall submit Terminal Disclaimers and Statements of Common Ownership to address each provisional rejection when the claims are deemed allowable. Therefore, the Examiner's provisional rejections would be no longer applicable.

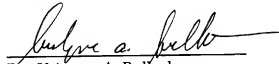
CONCLUSION

Examination and allowance of the claims at the earliest opportunity is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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